



United States Department of the Interior

ADDRESS ONLY THE DIRECTOR,
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

ENCLOSED IS A REPORT ON THE SERVICE'S 1980 RANGE-WIDE TRUMPETER SWAN POPULATION SURVEY. THE SERVICE INTENDS TO CONDUCT THESE SURVEYS AT 5-YEAR INTERVALS TO MONITOR THE STATUS AND TRENDS OF THIS SPECIES AND MAKE THE RESULTS AVAILABLE TO THOSE INTERESTED IN ITS CONSERVATION. WE HOPE YOU FIND THIS INFORMATION USEFUL. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE SURVEY, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF MIGRATORY BIRD MANAGEMENT (202-254-3207) HERE IN WASHINGTON.

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

NOVEMBER 17, 1981

TRUMPETER SWAN POPULATION SURVEY - 1980

In 1980 a range-wide survey was conducted to determine the population status of the Trumpeter Swan (Cygnus buccinator). It was the second in what is intended to be a series of such surveys, initiated in 1975, to be conducted at 5-year intervals. The purpose of the survey is to provide information on population size, distribution and productivity useful in the management of this species. The scope of the survey is range-wide, covering parts of 9 States and 4 Canadian Provinces (Figure 1) and involving numerous cooperators. The intent is to cover all major Trumpeter Swan breeding areas.

Procedures vary somewhat but generally the survey is conducted from fixed-wing aircraft in known or suspected Trumpeter Swan breeding habitat. Cooperators are provided with field and summary sheets for recording information (Appendix I).

Results of the 1980 survey are presented in Table 1. Results of previous surveys are not directly comparable with 1980 data because the survey coverage differed, but they do provide an indication of the changing status of both local and range-wide populations. The information from previous surveys is presented in Table 2. Overall the Trumpeter Swan population appears to be increasing with some significant exceptions. The next range-wide survey will be conducted in 1985.

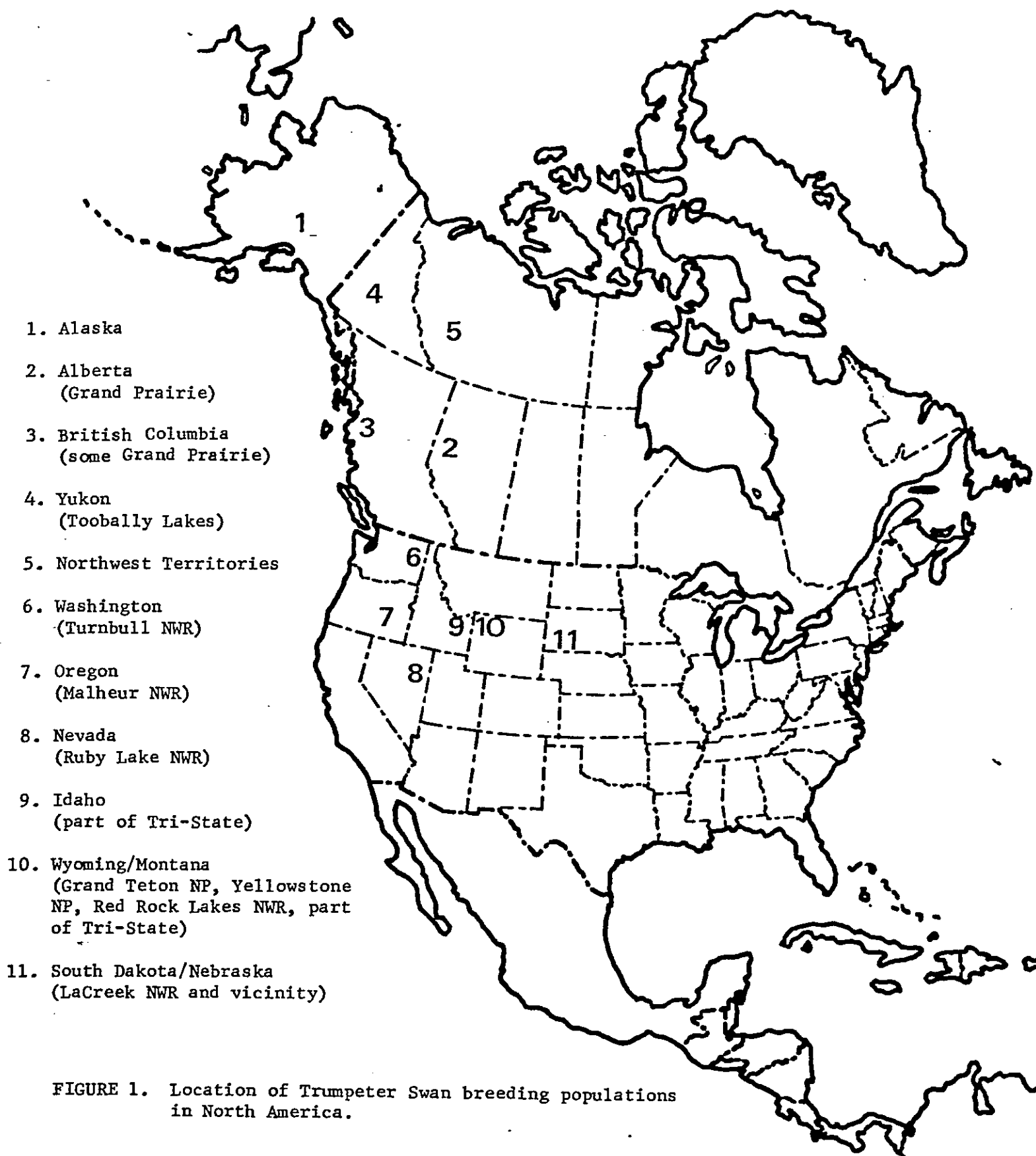


Table 1. Trumpeter Swan Population Survey - 1980

Area	Singles	Singles with a brood	Adults in Pairs	Pairs (adults) with a brood	Adults in flocks	Total Young	Total Adults	Total Trumpeter Swans
Alaska	169	—	3324	—	1763	2440	5256	86,527 7696 87,993
Alberta	1	—	32	48	59	75	140	215
British Columbia	—	—	12	—	—	Unk	12	12
Yukon	—	—	80	—	—	Unk	80	80
Northwest Territories	—	—	12	—	—	Unk	12	12
Washington	—	—	4	—	—	Unk	4	4
Oregon	4	1	26	—	9	19	40	59
Nevada	—	—	18	—	—	10	18	28
Idaho	2	—	34	—	37	10	73	83
Wyoming	6	—	54	—	14	6	74	80
Montana	17	—	128	—	170	6	315	321
South Dakota	2	1	6	16	13	19	38	57
Nebraska	4	—	16	18	44	25	82	107
TOTALS	205	2	3746	82	2109	2610	6144	8754

Note: In addition to the above, 6 free-flying adults were released at Hennepin County, Minnesota

Table 2. Trumpeter Swan population estimates for 1968, 1975 and 1980.

Area	1968 ^{1/}	1975 ^{1/}	1980	Percent Change 1975 to 1980
Alaska	2842	4170	7696	+85
Alberta	106	121	215	+78
British Columbia	—not surveyed—		12	
Yukon	—not surveyed—		80	
Northwest Territories	—not surveyed—		12	
Washington	37	39	4	-90
Oregon	51	36	59	+64
Nevada	34	32	28	-13
Tri-State	585	—not surveyed—	484	
South Dakota	64	138	164	+19
Total	3719	4536	8754	+80 ^{2/}

^{1/} Data provided by David Weaver (pers. comm.).

^{2/} % increase based on total of populations surveyed in both 1975 and 1980.

SUMMARY
TRUMPETER SWAN SURVEY - 1980

Region: _____ Date(s): _____

Aircraft Hours: _____ Vehicle Miles: _____

STATUS	LOCATION				
Singles					
Singles with broods					
Pairs without broods					
Flocks					
TOTALS					

Total Broods: _____
 Total Young: _____
 Total Adults: _____
 Total Swan: _____

